

MINUTES

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

June 5, 2008

12:00-2:00 pm

Behavioral Health Resource Center

Conference Room F119-120

850 E. Foothill Blvd.

Rialto, CA 92376

Members present:

Christopher Massa, Carol Grisotti, Veatrice Jews, Jane Mercer, Nick Andonov, Gabriel Gonzales, David Ford, Bill Swift, Jane Ann Godager, Tanya Perry, Susan McGee-Stehsel and Allan Rawland. Minutes recorded by Debi Pasco.

Guests:

Edward Deyon, Pathways to Recovery; May Farr; NAMI Inland Valley; Beverly Scott, ARCH Morongo Basin; Michael Hill, Public; Christine Edgecome, Family Service Agency; Julie Hovivian, Clarence Smith, John Pi, Vista Guidance Center; Stephen G., Shanaz M., DM FICS; Wayne Henkelmann, Mental Health Court; Kristen Martinez, Michael Oliver, R. Hernandez, Andy Gruchy, Doris Turner, Michael Paulson, Maria Coronado, Michelle Dusick, Laretta Ross, Gary Atkins, André Bossieux, Dot Walsh, Douglas Fazekas, Charlene Daniels, Bob Sudol, Linda Charkins, David Denkers, Evelyn Solorio, Lisa McGinnis, Lynn Neuenswander, Sharon Alston, Evelyn Solorio, CaSonya Thomas, Paula Rutten, Ralph Ortiz, Rosa Gomez, Lynn Van Gilder, and Michelle Dusick, DBH.

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Chairperson Andonov called the meeting to order at 12:14 p.m. and welcomed everyone. The agenda for this meeting was approved. The minutes of May 1, 2008 were adopted as written.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Andonov stated that he will become a permanent resident of Santa Barbara County in September 2008 and will relinquish his Chair to David Ford, Vice Chair of the Mental Health Commission. Chairperson Andonov introduced Dr. Kray, a potential candidate to the Mental Health Commission, Second District. Dr. Kray will submit his application for consideration to the office of Supervisor Biane. Chairperson Andonov accepted the May is Mental Health Month Resolution at the May 6th session of the Board of Supervisors.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Rawland announced that Department of Mental Health (DMH) considers San Bernardino County as "the model" for introducing consumer and family members into the workforce. In addition, DMH also recognized our Workforce Education and Training Plan as "Hollywood material". The activities planned for May is Mental Health Month were a big success. There were approximately 280 persons at the Evening with the Stars Awards Ceremony on May 14. The 3rd Annual Mental Health Fair took place at the Victorville

Fairgrounds on May 31. The May 2009 Mental Health fair will take place in Morongo Valley and in Big Bear in May 2010.

The DBH Office of Cultural Competence and Ethnic Services orchestrated the Asian Pacific Islander celebration on May 29th at Upland Community Counseling, attended by 100+ people. The emcee for the event was John Pi, Executive Director of Vista Guidance Center. May Farr presented her trials of growing up Japanese in America. Asian Pacific music, dancers and singers provided entertainment for the afternoon. Dr. Robbin Huff-Musgrove, Cultural Competency Officer, is planning a Diversity Day scheduled to take place in the fall of '08

Director Rawland has appointed Lynn Neuenswander, Office of Program Planning and Development, as the Public Information Officer (PIO) for Department of Behavioral Health (DBH). She will work with David Wert, PIO of the County Administrator's Office, to notify the Board of Supervisor's of DBH successes.

FY 08-09 State and County Budget:

The Governor is scheduled to sign the State budget at the end of June which includes \$4 million in mental health cuts. San Bernardino County is proactive in addressing the budget crisis. Our financial strategy to keep this company moving forward is to take in 60% more federal funding by increasing the number of clients on Medi-Cal. By increasing Medi-Cal, we hope to be able to serve unsponsored clients once again. The Barstow Clinic has achieved 80% of their clients on Medi-Cal. Commissioner Mercer stated that will refer the homeless persons in Ontario that she believes are eligible for federal aid to Upland Community Counseling for services. The Upland Clinic is the first in San Bernardino County to integrate mental health with primary healthcare.

Drug and Alcohol contractors and staff have made adjustments in residential and outpatient services to reduce services to approximately 500 clients to absorb \$2 million in budget cuts.

MHSA

San Bernardino County has received \$48 million since 2005 and has been approved for \$80 million. The total amount of MHSA funding to be received will be \$149 million.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Co-Occurring and Chronic Care Model

Deputy Director, Gary Atkins introduced Michelle Dusick, Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Substance Abuse Coordinator. Michelle announced that the PEI Plan has been posted on the state and county website for 30-day public comment period. MHSA is completely stakeholder driven with 3 major initiatives:

- School-based
- Community Resources Supports and Education
- Systems Enhancement Projects

Requests for Proposals will be distributed in January 2009.

Gary Atkins stated that drug and alcohol services are being integrated into MHSA programs:

1. Dual diagnosis peer groups led by peers - end of June 2008
2. Co-occurring programs (therapeutic support)
 - Victorville: opened May 13, 2008
 - Barstow: opened June 16, 2008
3. Co-occurring treatment: December 2008

NEW BUSINESS

1. Review: MHSA PEI Plan – Each commissioner received a copy of the plan to review prior to today's meeting. No changes to the Plan were suggested.
2. Review and approve: FY 2007 through 2010 County Performance Contract - Each commissioner received a copy of the plan to review prior to today's meeting. Commissioner Godager moved to approve; motion seconded by Commissioner McGee-Stehsel; contract approved by all.
3. Approve: District Advisory Committee (DACs) Guidelines – Commissioner Massa moved to approve; motion seconded by Commissioner Godager; guidelines approved by all.
4. Review and approve: Mental Health Commission Site Visit Protocol – Commissioners felt that the draft protocol was too formal and would create a laborious/intrusive visit process. They provided Director Rawland with suggestions for the next draft to be presented at the July 3rd executive session.

COMMUNITY INPUT

John Pi of Vista Guidance Center stated that First 5 funding is in jeopardy. He mentioned the 3 c's in the children's initiative and outreach: communicate, collaborate and care.

OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

No comments at this time.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

District 1: Commissioner Gonzales and Commissioner Swift stated that they had a great time at the Mental Health Wellness Fair in Victorville.

District 2: Chairman Andonov encouraged the Commissioners to attend the PEI Public Hearings in their district. Please join Supervisor Gonzales at the ACT, FACT and MAPS Open House on June 18th. Chairman Andonov would like all vacancies filled on the Mental Health Commission by December 2008.

District 3: Commissioner Massa also attended the Mental Health Fair in Victorville. Commissioner Massa, President of Team House, along with Robert Frost, Vice President, have established karaoke events at their center.

Commissioner Perry stated that the Big Bear Mental Health Alliance met with Gary Atkins, Deputy Director, to discuss ways to increase Medi-Cal.

District 4: Commissioner Mercer is still very active at Tent City in Ontario. Mercy House is coordinating the meals and everything is coming together. Allan stated that DBH is partnering with the city of Ontario to provide shelter bed and support services to Mercy House. Tent City is a much protected area, however, Maria Coronado's team of professionals are granted access only to provide services. If you wish to accompany the team on a visit, please contact Maria Coronado.

Commissioner Grisotti was invited to attend a 100-year Muslim celebration at the site of their new mosque being built in Chino Hills. She stated that members of the Muslim community expressed interest in the Mental Health Commission.

District 5: Commissioner McGee-Stehsel enjoyed listening to speaker, Tom Whooton at Evening with the Stars. She is very interested in his research-based prototype being used in Marin County and the attitude adjustment towards recovery.

Commissioner Godager enjoyed the Evening with the Stars at the Castaways. She attended the Department of Aging Health Fair on May 28.

Being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Nick Andonov
Chairman

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Commission